



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AUSTIN TEXAS  
INTER-OFFICE

02-016

**TO:** Regional Directors  
Directors, Local Health Departments  
Directors, Independent WIC Local Agencies  
Director, Office of Public Health Practice

**FROM:** Barbara Keir, Director  
Public Health Nutrition and Education  
Bureau of Nutrition Services

ORIGINAL SIGNED

**DATE:** February 11, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Conference Call: Texas Tech/Texas WIC Anemia and Overweight Study

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The Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Nutrition Services, WIC Program and Texas Tech University are collaborating on a USDA funded research study investigating differences among children participating in the WIC program enrolled with either anemia or overweight risk criteria, whose condition improved and those whose condition did not improve. In order to conduct this study statewide, we need the support and assistance of the local agencies. We have planned several conference calls to go over the study and provide instructions to administer the survey. Please look over the enclosed materials and have them with you during the conference call. These materials provide the procedures to follow to assist in the administration of the surveys and will be discussed in detail during the conference call.

The conference calls have been scheduled for the following times: February 21, 22, and 26. **To connect to the conference call dial (512) 463-1928. Then enter: 1501518# (Don't forget to enter the pound sign at the end.)** Because we are limited to the number of phone lines available at each conference call time, **only one representative from each local agency will be able to call in.** Each LA will have a choice between two dates and times when they can dial in. See chart below. If these times do not work for you, please contact us so we can make other arrangements.

LA 01 – 036	Feb. 21, 12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM	Feb. 22, 12 Noon – 1:30 PM
LA 37 – 071	Feb. 22, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Feb. 26, 12 Noon – 1:30 PM
LA 72 – 107	Feb. 21, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Feb. 26, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

The surveys will be conducted over a six-month period, beginning mid-March and ending in August 2002. Potential participants in the study have been randomly selected and divided by regions. We do not anticipate that any one agency will be chosen to survey more than 15 participants per research group. Because of the nature of random selection, many sites may only have up to four participants selected, and some will have none. To best

Memo 02-016

Page 2

February 11, 2002

Conference Call: Texas Tech/Texas WIC Anemia and Overweight Study

coordinate the study, it is advised that each Local Agency select a "lead" to coordinate the administration of the surveys. It is important that the selected coordinator be present at one of the scheduled phone conferences to receive the information on the administration of the surveys, as well as to participate in the discussion of possible problems.

We are very excited about the potential of this study. The results from these studies will help program administrators, planners, and educators to target program procedures and services that will help our participants improve their health status.

We greatly appreciate your assistance. If you have any questions related to this information, contact Isabel Clark, Clinical Nutrition Specialist, at 512-458-7111, ext. 3489, or e-mail [Isabel.Clark@tdh.state.tx.us](mailto:Isabel.Clark@tdh.state.tx.us).

Enclosures